

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER NO. LTC# 045-2012

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LETTER TO COMMISSIGNO

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TO:

Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE:

February 8, 2012

SUBJECT: Miami Beach Police Officer Recruitment

This Letter to the Commission (LTC) is to provide an update on the hiring of Police Officers for the City of Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD). Effective Tuesday, January 31, 2012, twelve (12) new Police Officers and one (1) rehired Police Officer joined the MBPD and began their seven (7) week internal training program.

The internal training program consists of one (1) week of classroom instruction and six (6) weeks of practical training where probationary police officers are certified in operating all-terrain vehicles (ATV), prisoner vans, learn holding facility protocols, police bicycle training, and the operation of the Report Control Center. The probationary police officers are also given practical operational scenarios where they practice traffic and felony stops as well as night time searches. During classroom instruction, the probationary police officers are also taught the MBPD high liability standard operating procedures and report writing. When the probationary police officers finish this initial training course they are then assigned to various shifts and partnered with a Field Training Officer (FTO) in order to begin the Field Training Program, which takes approximately fourteen (14) weeks to complete.

The Police Department is currently budgeted for 372 sworn positions (includes all ranks in the department). As of January 31, 2012 there are 363 sworn officers on staff (including the twelve (12) new hires and the one (1) rehire). Of the remaining nine (9) vacancies, two (2) are at the command staff level which are being held vacant for future evaluation. This leaves only seven (7) vacant police officer positions. There are a number of candidates in the background process to fill these vacancies. In addition, the City will continue with its ongoing recruitment efforts for police officers until all vacancies are filled and in anticipation of all future vacancies resulting from future staff separations.

If you have any questions or need any additional information regarding this issue, please feel free to contact me or Ramiro Inguanzo, Human Resources Director.

Executive Staff Cc:

> F:CMGR/Ramiro/Memos/Police Officer Recruitments JMG/RI